



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE

04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on September 12, 2006, at the Peter A. McKernan Hospitality Center, Southern Maine Community College, Portland with the following members present: Chair James Carignan; Vice Chair Philip Dionne, Joyce McPhetres, Jean Gulliver, Ellie Multer, Janet Tockman, Ann Weisleder, and Jack Norris

Also present were: Commissioner Susan Gendron; and Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities Team; Angela Faherty, Deputy Commissioner.

CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to approve the July 12 and August 9, 2006, minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA

QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BOND PROGRAM

MOVED by Ellie Multer, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted in favor to approve the consent agenda.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

CHAPTER 118: PURPOSES, STANDARDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Background: The Department and the State Board of Education propose to amend the rules governing educator certification support systems. Among the amendments is the inclusion of required performance standards: Maine's Initial Teacher Certification Standards. The proposed amendments include revised definitions and procedures for use by local support systems, which support professional educators in seeking higher certification. The proposed changes to rule are the result of the work of a stakeholders group, which has met monthly since January 2004. The proposed changes were

presented to the Board for consideration with the concurrence of all stakeholders on May 20, 2006. Subsequent to action during the May 10, 2006, meeting of the Board it has been determined that it is necessary to append the existing rule to the amended changes so as to permit a transition period to remain in effect until the end of school year 2008-2009. Providing a transition period permits LEAs to revise their local support system plans, and prepare for the new rules, which will become effective August 1, 2009, excluding the e-Portfolio for Professional Certification, which does not take effect until August 1, 2011. This rule is not major and substantive and thus is not subject to time constraints that honor legislative approval.

Recommendation: That the State Board of Education approve the appending of the existing Chapter 118 rules to the proposed changes to Chapter 118, effective August 1, 2009, and initiate the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (APA) for Chapter 118: Purposes, Standards, and Procedures for Educational Personnel Support Systems.

MOVED by Janet Tockman, seconded by Ann Weisleder, and unanimously voted by those present to approve appending the existing Chapter 118 rules to the proposed changes effective August 1, 2009, and to initiate the Maine Administrative Procedures Act (APA) for Chapter 118: Purposes, Standards, and Procedures for Educational Personnel Support Systems.

CHAPTER 115, CERTIFICATION, AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL

Background: Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization, and Approval of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the State Board of Education and Department of Education underwent Legislative review and approval during the second regular session of the 121st Maine Legislature and was adopted by the State Board on April 14, 2004.

The State Board committee for certification and higher education has over the past few months, revisited Chapter 115 to address requests that would effect changes and provide clarifications to the rule.

Proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Part II include the addition of a new certificate, the Interim Superintendent Certificate, which would allow a school superintendent whose superintendent certificate had lapsed to be employed in a school district as an interim superintendent for a period of up to two years; the removal of reference to the current testing requirement for a targeted need certificate for prelingually deaf certification candidates; the inclusion that community college courses are acceptable with a minimum grade of "C" and part of an articulated agreement with a regionally accredited four-year college; the waiving of student teaching with a waiver to teach from the Commissioner and a support team; the addition of a new endorsement - Early Childhood (Birth to School age 5) and, the addition of clarifying language that was inadvertently deleted in a prior rule revision in the following teacher endorsements; middle level, foreign language, literacy specialist, and career and technical.

Chapter 115 proposed amendments have been finalized for State Board Approval and for approval to proceed with rulemaking through the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA) process.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Parts I and II, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

MOVED by Janet Tockman, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted to approve proceeding with rulemaking regarding the proposed amendments to Chapter 115, Parts I and II, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM; *CONCEPT APPROVAL*
CONSIDERATION; SAD #54, NORRIDGEWOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Statement of Fact: SAD #54 is the first project to reach Concept Approval from the 2004-2005 rating cycle. The project was rated number 5 on the Approved Projects List. The District made a major effort to consolidate its western section. Small schools in the towns of Smithfield and Mercer will both close and students will attend the new school in Norridgewock. The facility will house Pre-K through grade six. The new facility will be constructed on the same site as the present school, but its placement on the site will allow the District to house students in the present school during the new construction. The school site is well developed with athletic fields and play areas. It's the location in the center of the village that will permit easy access for Norridgewock students. Both Smithfield and Mercer are contiguous to Norridgewock, which allows for short bus runs to the facility. This Concept Approval is being requested pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

Project Information:

Project: SAD #54 Elementary School
Superintendent: Brent Colbry
Principal: Cecile Tobey
Architect: Steve Blatt, Stephen Blatt Architect
Schools Closed: Mercer Elementary, Smithfield Elementary
School Replaced: Norridgewock Elementary

Superintendent Colbry has provided the following project description statement:

The new MSAD #54 PreK-6 Norridgewock Elementary School will replace three existing facilities that currently service the communities of Norridgewock, Smithfield, and Mercer. Currently, the Norridgewock Central Grade School houses 260 K-6 students, the Mercer Elementary School houses 64 students and the Smithfield Elementary School houses 34

Concept Approval Consideration; SAD #54, Norridgewock Elementary School Project September 12, 2006, students in Grades 4-6. Both the Norridgewock School and the Smithfield School are very old and have out-dated facilities that do not meet the educational needs of today's curriculum. The Mercer School was renovated in 1990, but is not cost effective to operate. All of these schools are within ten miles of each other.

The New Consolidated Norridgewock Elementary School will bring the three student populations together in a new PreK-6 elementary school. Currently, we do not have any full-day Kindergarten classes in these schools. The Board has voted to support a Pre-K program and to institute an all day Kindergarten in the new Consolidated School.

This project will not only allow for more comprehensive and equitable educational opportunities for the PreK-6 students attending the new school, but will also save the District and its tax payers significant money as duplications of services are reduced.

The new school will enable the District to more adequately meet the District's goals for student achievement and Learning Results standards.

Particular attention has been paid in the school design to be sensitive to the fact that many of these students have attended very small schools; hence, we have tried to create age-appropriate communities within the school.

The in-town location of the school makes the school the true center of the community and a community resource for all ages. There is great community support for this project.

The construction of this school is a very significant step in the completion of the District's Long-Term Capital Improvement Plan.

Project Budget Information:

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$15,805,000

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$15,349,000

Local Only Cost: \$336,000

Anticipated Value of Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$120,000

Commissioner's Recommendation: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board grant Concept Approval to SAD #54 for a Pre-K through grade six elementary school in Norridgewock, and approve the budget as presented.

Construction Committee Recommendation: At its meeting on September 5, 2006, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Concept Approval to SAD #54 for a new elementary school construction project located in Norridgewock, Maine.

MOVED by Jean Gulliver, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and unanimously voted to grant concept approval to SAD #54 for a New Elementary School Construction Project located in Norridgewock, Maine.

RECEIPT OF THE REPORT, "THE LEARNING STATE: MAINE SCHOOLING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Joyce McPhetres, and voted five (5) in favor with two (2) members abstaining (Ellie Multer and Phil Dionne), one (1) member opposed (Janet Tockman).

CONSIDERATION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION ON TABOR

Whereas, the proposed Taxpayer Bill of Rights referendum significantly reduces the capacity of local and state government to respond to opportunities and challenges we will inevitably face in education in this fast-moving world of the 21st century, and

Whereas, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights curtails the function of traditional democratic practices in Maine, and cedes to the minority, in country, municipal and school governments, the power to control the raising of resources, and

Whereas, the Taxpayer Bill of Rights will result in a tragic reduction in necessary resources to prepare our young people for the 21st century, therefore

Be It Resolved, the Maine State Board of Education opposes passage of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights and urges all thoughtful Maine citizens to do the same.

MOVED by Jim Carignan, seconded by Jean Gulliver, and unanimously voted in favor to adopt the above resolve.

ADJOURNMENT:

State Board of Education unanimously agreed to adjourn the September 12, 2006, meeting at 3:30 PM.